

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 05332 211216Z

43

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 A-01

OPR-02 SY-05 AID-05 PC-05 SCCT-01 COME-00 EB-07

LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 IO-10 /106 W
----- 103647

R 211131Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8243

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 5332

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB IN

SUBJECT: STRIKE BY MAHARASHTRA STATE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

1. 250,000 MAHARASHTRA STATE GOVERNMENT CLERICAL AND LOWER GRADE EMPLOYEES BEGAN AN INDEFINITE STRIKE APRIL 19 DEMANDING A COST OF LIVING ALLOWANCE EQUAL TO THAT OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES. STRIKE LAUNCHED DESPITE RULING BY MAHARASHTRA GOVERNMENT THAT IT WAS ILLEGAL AS AFFECTING "ESSENTIAL SERVICES." THE STRIKE HAS BEEN CALLED BY UNIONS NOT AFFILIATED TO NATIONAL TRADE UNION CENTERS AND NOT BELIEVED TO HAVE PARTICULAR POLITICAL LEANINGS. HOWEVER, A POLITICAL NOTE HAS BEEN INJECTED INTO THE STRIKE BY COMMUNIST LEADER S.A. DANGE WHO HAS ANNOUNCED SUPPORT OF CPI AND ITS AITUC CONFEDERATION FOR STATE EMPLOYEES' DEMAND.

2. MAHARASHTRA CHIEF MINISTER S.B. CHAVAN HAS STATED THAT IT WOULD COST THE STATE AN ADDITIONAL RS. 750 MILLION FOR THE 1975-76 BUDGET TO MEET THE EMPLOYEES' DEMAND. ONLY RS. 150 MILLION HAS BEEN ALLOCATED IN THE BUDGET FOR ADDITIONAL ALLOWANCES. UNION LEADER R.G. KARNIK
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PAGE 02 NEW DE 05332 211216Z

HAS ARGUED THAT AGRICULTURAL INCOME COULD BE TAXED TO

PRODUCE THE REVENUE TO PAY THE INCREASED ALLOWANCE.

3. ON THE THIRD DAY OF THE STRIKE, THE UNIONS EXEMPTED
DAIRIES, HOSPITALS, AND WATERWORKS FROM THE STRIKE.
THE LAST STRIKE OF THIS TYPE WAS IN NOVEMBER 1970 WHICH
LASTED TWELVE DAYS PRIOR TO REACHING A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT.
GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES IN OTHER STATES HAVE ALSO BEEN
DEMANDING PAYMENT OF THE COST OF LIVING ALLOWANCE EQUAL
TO THAT RECEIVED BY CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES. THUS
FAR, THIS DEMAND HAS BEEN CONCEDED BY 11 STATES.SAXBE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GENERAL STRIKES, CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES, CLERICAL WORKERS, GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NEWDE05332
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750139-0247
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750432/aaaabeah.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUL 2003 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <02 FEB 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STRIKE BY MAHARASHTRA STATE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES
TAGS: ELAB, IN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006